

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 04029 152047Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /077 W
-----107099 152054Z /73

R 151904Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1213
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 4029

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT,ASPGOV, JM
SUBJECT: MID-TERM ELECTIONS IN JAMAICA?

1. ON THE EVENING OF MAY 13, FRANK PHIPPS, CHAIRMAN OF THE OPPOSITION JAMAICA LABOUR PARTY (JLP) DESCRIBED TO EMBOFF REMARK MADE MINUTES EARLIER BY RALPH BROWN, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE RULING PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP) AND MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO. PHIPPS SAID THAT BROWN EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT HE (BROWN) HAS CONCLUDED THAT AN ELECTION MAY WELL HAVE TO BE HELD SOMEWHERE IN THE COURSE OF THE NEXT YEAR. PHIPPS INFERRED FROM BROWN'S REMARK THAT A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER WITHIN THE PNP HAVE NOW CONCLUDED THAT THE PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE AUSTERITY PROGRAM INTRODUCED AT

PARTV OF THE AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND WILL BE ADVERSE AND COMPEL ELECTIONS.

2. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO REASON TO QUESTION THE ACCURACY OF PHIPPS' STATEMENT. OUR EXPERIENCE WITH BROWN SUGGESTS
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THAT HE IS A STRAIGHTFORWARD AND UNCOMPLICATED MAN WHO IS ILL-EQUIPPED TO ENGAGE IN ELABORATE EFFORTS TO MISLEAD OPPONENTS. IF ELECTIONS ARE TO BE HELD, THE JLP CONFRONTS THE PROBLEM OF OVERTURNING ITS DECISION TO BOYCOTT ELECTIONS. PHIPPS SAID THAT HE EXPECTS THIS WILL BE EASILY DONE AND WE HAVE SINCE HAD CONFIRMATION OF THIS POSITION FROM ANOTHER SENIOR JLP FIGURE.

IRVING

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, PARTY ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780559/aaaabxyd.tel
Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0c8a1c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, PGOV, EAID, JM, IMF, JLP, PEOPLES NATIONAL PARTY, PNP, JAMAICAN LABOUR PARTY, (PHIPPS, FRANK), (BROWN, RALPH)
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